

Hot Ideas for Outdoor Fireplaces ... p. 38

hanley wood

AMERICAN DREAM HOMES

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2005

THE NATION'S PREMIER HOME MAGAZINE

Living Large
Shaquille O'Neal
Invites Us Inside

Special:
Shaq's
Miami
Mansion

Tour 19 Gorgeous Homes
From Around the Nation

plus:

Recreate Your Outdoor Spaces

Make Your Home
Energy Efficient

\$8.95 U.S. • \$12.95 CAN

DISPLAY UNTIL NOVEMBER 22, 2005





WIRED FOR LIFE

Take some time in your home's planning and design stage to decide what wiring approach is best for your lifestyle

There was a time not long ago when we didn't need a houseful of gadgets to live comfortably. These days, however, our homes are wired to help us stay safe, manage our day-to-day activities, and even light our rooms and play music according to a prescheduled program. It's all in the name of comfortable living, and your options to reach that goal increase almost daily. Here's a look at some of the latest whole-house high-tech products, as well as some specialty items to help make life just that much better for years to come.

FLIP SIDE: The iCEBOX flipscreen lets you monitor your home's video security system, surf the Internet, or control any appliance in its Beyond™ line of products—all from the comfort of your kitchen. Icebox, LLC; www.beyondconnectedhome.com.

WRITTEN BY JASON MILLER

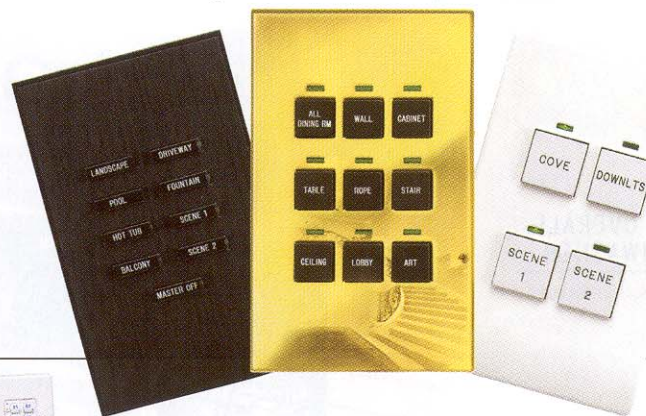


WINE FINDER

The eSommelier Wine Management Server keeps information on more than 130,000 wines at your fingertips. It even remembers the location of each bottle in your wine cellar. **eSommelier**; www.esommelier.net.

LIGHT TOUCH

A tap on any LiteTouch customized control panel lets you control your artificial and natural light levels. **LiteTouch**; www.litetouch.com.



ALL IN ONE

The wireless DigLinX system from NetStreams can be integrated with many of your home's systems, including security, telephones, HVAC, and more.

NetStreams; www.netstreams.com.



Beneath the skin

When building your home, start thinking about the technology you—or a future buyer—may want to use during the design stage. Plan what kind of wires you're going to include in your house, for which activities. Do you plan to watch ReplayTV or TiVo? You'll need an ethernet connection. Whole-house lighting control? Internet access? Answer these questions before the walls are up and your options become more limited.

The latest buzz

Many companies, such as Honeywell and On-Q Technologies, are taking steps to help consumers navigate the sometimes confusing world of structured

wiring. On-Q is educating consumers with its website, onqhome.com, which lets consumers browse the company's 650 home-systems solutions.

The HomeWorks® lighting system from Lutron uses radio frequency technology to control the lighting in as many or as few rooms as you wish, integrating all your lighting needs into one-touch keypads. The expandable system can be used in existing or new homes. Many of the keypads are available with custom engraving for your personal lighting control choices, providing the precise level of light you need in a room.

LiteTouch also lets you control your artificial light and natural light with the press of a button, but goes further with

its "Experience Lighting Control" link on its website, litetouch.com. The feature walks consumers through control strategies they may adopt, and includes 18 real-life benefits and applications.

The iCEBOX flipscreen has been around for a couple years, but its capacity to control so many functions from your kitchen makes it notable. Typically mounted beneath a kitchen cupboard, the iCEBOX touch-screen folds up underneath the cabinet when not in use, swinging down to let you control its television, listen to FM radio, watch a DVD or play a CD, monitor your home's video security system, surf the Internet, or control any appliance in its Beyond™ line, such as a coffeemaker.

Wireless products are on the rise, too, including the DigiLinX system from NetStreams. An IP-based, wireless, multiple-room audio system, DigiLinX is completely digital for excellent sound reproduction. It requires an ethernet network, is easy to install, and can be integrated with a variety of home subsystems, including lighting, security, telephones, air conditioning, and more.

Crestron's Isys i/O TPMC-10 wireless touchpanel can be carried while allowing you to access the web, view streaming media, manage e-mail, and access PCs without ever plugging in. Lutron offers a wireless control panel that detaches from the wall for light control on the go.

Starting to get the picture? Wired—and wireless—living is waiting for you. ■